GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:179
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2015
Modernisation of Coal Mines
Misra Shri Pinaki

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the present status and condition of the coal mines in operation in the country including Odisha, State-wise;
(b) whether the Government proposes to modernise the coal mines and if so, the details thereof, mine and State-wise;
(c) the reasons for not modernising all the coal mines in various States including Odisha; and
(d) the time by which the proposed and all other coal mines are likely to be modernised?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL, POWER AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question no. 179 for 10.12.2015 regarding Modernisation of Coal Mines
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1. At present CIL operates 431 mines (Opencast: 177, Underground: 222 &Mixed: 32) in eight states of India viz. West Bengal, Jharkhand, Odisha, Assam, Chattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharastra and Uttar Pradesh. Almost all opencast mines are mechanized and in majority of opencast mines, state-of-the-art technology have been adopted. So far as underground mines are concerned, a few legacy underground mines undertaken at the time of nationalization where manual operations still continue, are being phased out gradually, wherever geo-technical conditions permit. Strategic decision has been taken to convert such underground mines into open cast mines to make mines safe and viable. Majority of the underground mines are being operated through intermediate technology by deployment of Side Discharge Loader (SDL) / Load Haul Dump(LHD) and Universal Drilling Machine (UDM). In a number of underground mines, state-of-the-art technology i.e. continuous miner, long-wall, short-wall and high-wall technology etc. have already been implemented.

2. Modernization of mines depends mainly on the geo-technical factors. Modernizing of coal mines have been undertaken wherever the geo-technical factors permitted. However, in a number of legacy underground mines, large scale mechanization could not be adopted due to inadequate transport infrastructure, complex geo-mining conditions and non-availability of land.
3. Gradual reduction in manual production and increase in productivity and other efficiency parameters depict the gradual increase of modernization in coal mines. A few underground mines, where manual operation is still continuing, are being phased out wherever geo-technical conditions permit. New mines are opened with modern equipment and technology.

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